

Park Recreation Open Space - Wichita 2020

PLAN GOAL, GUIDING PRINCIPLES, and PROCESS

PLAN GOAL

To develop a dynamic, long term and integrated **Parks, Recreation, and Open Space** (PROS) plan to guide the development, provision, maintenance, and funding of PROS resources within the City of Wichita and its future growth areas.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES for the Parks, Recreation, Open Space Plan

The Wichita PROS Plan will ...

REGIONAL RESPONSIVENESS

1. Ensure that the City of Wichita provides park, recreation, and open space resources within its boundaries in a manner that strengthens and further develops the ecological, economic, and cultural assets of the South Central Kansas region.

INTEGRATED AND MULTI-FUNCTIONAL

2. Guide the integration of a variety of PROS resources – private, municipal, county, state, federal and school district – both physically and through programming, and encourage collaboration among resource providers.

EQUITY AND ACCESSIBILITY

3. Ensure equitable distribution and access for all City of Wichita residents to a variety of PROS resources within the municipal boundaries.

QUALITY, BEAUTY, IDENTITY and ROOTEDNESS

4. Develop the City of Wichita's PROS system to build on the community's many positive features both natural and cultural; Create an exemplary, signature PROS system that inspires a sense of place and cultural context.

SUSTAINABILITY

5. Provide PROS resources in a manner that educates the public about our natural systems, encourages stewardship of community resources, utilizes resources in a sustainable way, and ensures the economic vitality for the community as a whole.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

6. Ensure safe and well-maintained City of Wichita PROS resources that provide multiple, frequent, and easily-accessible opportunities for exercise, physical activity, and connection to nature, as ways to enhance the physical, emotional, and mental health of all Wichitans.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

7. Guide education, marketing, and promotional efforts – through a variety of avenues – of the City of Wichita’s PROS resources.

FEASIBILITY AND FLEXIBILITY

8. Provide a lasting and feasible vision for PROS resources in the City of Wichita, with a complementary set of near-term implementation strategies that includes mechanisms for both public and private investment that are achievable in incremental steps and adaptable over time.

RESPONSIBILITY

9. Ensure the highest quality of PROS resources, fiscal responsibility, and accountability to the public and their needs; Ensure the use and continuity over time of the PROS Plan as a guide for the provision of City of Wichita PROS resources during and throughout transitions of staff, appointed bodies, and elected officials.

STEWARDSHIP

10. Inspire shared stewardship of PROS resources between public agencies, non-profits, private businesses, and individual citizens.

The PROS Planning Process will...

- Provide multiple and diverse opportunities for the Citizens of Wichita to provide meaningful direction and input into the provision of PROS resources in the City of Wichita.
- Provide easily understood visuals that communicate the important issues and relationships concerning PROS resources in the City of Wichita.
- Illustrate integrated Parks-Recreation-Open Space systems for Wichita’s future development.
- Educate the public through a variety of avenues to the availability, benefits, and concept of PROS resources as an essential public service.
- Provide opportunities for leading regional designers, planners, politicians, developers, officials and residents within the City of Wichita to exchange ideas.
- Broadly involve citizens, elected representatives, and policy makers to address ever-changing needs in the core area, first suburbs, and current growth areas.
- Present opportunities for major employers, philanthropists, and public citizens to assist government at all levels in enhancing a healthy, attractive livable metro area.

- Assist in the prioritization of open space efforts in a timeline of targets that includes near-term actions (5, 10, 20 years) based on more in-depth, community-based planning, including funding strategies and mechanisms.